(f) No such malpractice has been brought to the notice of the Government.

Coking coal unsuitable for steel production

3188. SHRI NARAYAN KAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India's coking coal reserves are unsuitable for steel production and are likely to exhaust shortly;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the coal becomes costlier after blending and beneficiation;

(c) what are the factors necessitating the import of coking coal;

(d) what is the cost-benefit ratio; and

(e) what is its impact on the national economy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) India's coking coal reserves are suitable for steel production after beneficiation. While the reserves of prime coking coal are limited, there is no apprehension of coking coal reserves in the country being exhausted in the foreseeable future.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). Main reasons for import of coking coal are shortfall in availability of prime coking coal from indigenous sources and the advantage that steel plants realise by blending superior imported coking coal with indigenous coking coal. While the import of a part of the requirement of coking coal of the steel industry has no adverse impact on the indigenous coal industry, it helps the steel industry to upgrade the coal which is charged in the Coke Ovens.

Opening of a branch of Delhi Public School at Dhanbad

3189. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received two memorandum dated 9th April, 1988 and 25th July, 1988 from Koyala Khadan Shikshak Morcha, Kustore. Dhanbad;

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) whether they were assured by Government on 9th April 1988 that a uniform educational policy would be introduced in CIL;

(d) if so, whether this assurance is being implemented; if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that the BCCL have decided to open a branch of Delhi Public School at Dhanbad and have advertised for posts of teachers;

(f) if so, whether Government are aware of the plight of the existing teachers in BCCL, Dhanbad that would be caused by the opening of public school; and

(g) what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of the existing teachers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands include, *inter-alia*, payment of grants-in-aid to privately run schools in Dhanbad area at enhanced rates, revision of pay scales and other service conditions of the teaching staff almost at par with the Government teachers.

(c) to (g). Representatives of the Koyla Khadan Shikshak Morcha keep on meeting the various authorities in this connection from time to time. A delegation of the Morcha met the Drector (Personnel) of BCCL on 12-4-88 and submitted a memorandum to him. The position of the company on various issues raised in their memoranda was clarified to them. It may be added that coal companies actively promote spread of educational facilities in the coalfields and in pursuance of this policy the coal companies have been actively assisting private entrepreneurs, financially and in other ways, in the establishment and maintenance of educational institutions in their areas. The companies, however,